

REGION IX Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands 201 Mission Street Suite 2210 San Francisco, CA 94105-1839 415-744-3133 415-744-2726 (fax)

SEP 1 5 2003

Mr. Jim Nicholas Chief, Division of Transportation Planning Department of Transportation Business, Transportation and Housing Agency State of California Box 942873 Sacramento, California 94273-0001

RE: Amendment 8 to Rural, Non-MPO Portion of the 2002-2004 FSTIP

Dear Mr. Nicholas:

We have completed our review of Amendment Number 8 to the rural, non-Metropolitan Planning Organization portion of the Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. This amendment applies specifically to transit services in Mendocino County, consistent with your letter of September 3, 2003 regarding this amendment.

We accept this amendment in accordance with 23 CFR 450 and find that this amendment is based on a continuing, comprehensive, and coordinated transportation process in accordance with the provisions of 23 USC 134 and 49 USC 5303. This amendment is for transit services in an air quality attainment area that is exempt from conformity determination requirements. Our approval is based on Caltrans assurance that the funding for these projects does not adversely impact the FSTIP financial plan.

This letter also constitutes approval of the amendment with the understanding that FTA funding approval on individual projects is subject to the grantees meeting the necessary administrative requirements.

Sincerely,

Regional Administrator

Cc: Abhijit Bagde, Caltrans Wade Hobbs, FHWA

Ted Matley, FTA